(b) The Ravi and Beas Waters Tribunal, known as the Eradi Tribunal and constituted through a Notification dated 2.4.1986 of the Government of India, submitted a report on 30.1.1987. A *suo moto* reference, comprising references of the Central Government and those received from the States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan, seeking explanation/guidance on some points of the Tribunal's report, was forwarded to the Tribunal by the Central Government on 19.8.1987, which has since been sub judice before the Tribunal.

(c) The work of the Tribunal shall be over after it provides requisite explanation/guidance sought in the *suo moto* reference and the Central Government is satisfied that no further reference to the Tribunal in the matter would be necessary.

Meeting of CMs on Ichampally and Polavaram Projects

85. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convene a meeting of Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra for working out the modalities of the Ichampally and Polavaram Projects on River Godavari;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to resolve early the inter-State disputes for utilisation for Godavari water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) With a view to sort out the issues first at the official level, a High Level Committee has been constituted on 6th July, 2000 under the Chairmanship of Member, Water Planning and Projects, Central Water Commission (CWC) with representatives from the States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa and

Chief Engineer (Project Appraisal) CWC as Members with Chief Engineer (Irrigation Management) CWC as the Member Secretary and representatives from Central Electricity Authority, Central Ground Water Board, National Water Development Agency and the Ministry of Environment and Forests as invitee members to resolve the inter-State issues involved in Ichampally and Polavaram Projects. The new State of Chhattisgarh has also been included on 4th December, 2000 as a Member. The Committee which has been given time till 30th April, 2001 to submit its report, has held two meetings so far.

Report on linking of Ganga and Cauvery Rivers

86. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Report on linking of Ganga with Cauvery Rivers;

(b) by when agreement among various States would be reached for implementation on linking; and

(c) the modalities for transfer by inter-linking of rivers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation (now Ministry of Water Resources) and Central Water Commission have formulated a National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development which envisages inter linkages between various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers including Ganga, Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Cauvery for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins for optimum utilisation of water resources. The Government of India has established National Water Development Agency (NWDA) as an Autonomous Society in July, 1982 to *inter alia* carry out the water balance and feasibility studies of National Perspective Plan.